

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: June 3, 2013

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 9 (d): Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a new five-year term of the Cooperative Management Agreement among the National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a new Cooperative Management Agreement among the National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Legislative Authority: Section 33211 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: Cooperation in land acquisition projects, planning, operations, interpretation, and sharing of resources and expertise has been a hallmark of our four agencies in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and that cooperative partnership is ongoing. The original cooperative management agreement between the agencies was entered into in 1995 and has been periodically updated and re-authorized. The five-year term of the current agreement is set to expire this fall. The cooperative agreement also provides a framework for cost-sharing and funding opportunities for specific projects via Task Agreements with the National Park Service, such as funding that NPS provides for part of the operation of the William O. Douglas Outdoor Classroom, joint ranger law enforcement activities, fire management, and trail planning, among other projects in the National Recreation Area that benefit the parks and the public.

Attached is the draft proposed new agreement.